NOTE ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE IMMIGRANT BARK BEETLE, *HYLASTES OPACUS,* IN NORTH AMERICA (COLEOPTERA: SCOLYTIDAE)[1]

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ABSTRACT: The Palearctic bark beetle, *Hylastes opacus,* was first recorded for North America in 1989 from a single location near Long Island, New York. This paper reports *H. opacus* from Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, West Virginia, and central New York. This black pine bark beetle was detected in Maine and Vermont in *Ips* pheromone-baited Lindgren funnel traps in 1993, in alpha-pinene baited traps in New Hampshite in 1994, and an ethanol baited trap in West Virginia in 1994. Additional specimens were identified from an earlier collection in New York. These records extend the known range of *H. opacus* in North America from New York to northern New England and south to West Virginia..

The palearctic bark beetle, *Hylstes opacus* Erichson occurs in the "pine belts" of Asia and Europe (China, Japan, Korea, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, England, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland and USSR) (Wood and Bright 1992). The species has also become established in pine plantations of South Africa (Wood 1992).

Wood (1992) reported the first North American record of *H. opacus,* from a series collected on Fisher's Island, Suffolk County, New York, in May, 1989 by T. W. Phillips. Based on the circumstances of the collection, Wood (1992) concluded that the *H. opacus* was established at this site.

The Fisher's island collection consisted of 12 specimens in a pheromone trap. The island is devoid of native pines, with only one potential host for *H. opacus* – ornamental plantings of Japanese black pine, *Pinus thunbergiana* Franco. (T.W. Phillips, pers. commun., Feb. 1994).

In 1993, we detected specimens of *H. opacus* from Vermont and Maine while screening trap samples from a Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) for exotic bark beetles in the Northeastern United States. These records extend the known geographic range for *H. opacus* in North America to the northeast from New York to New Engand (Figure 1). Specific collection data area as follows:

Maine: Waldo Co., Lincolnville, 6/V/1993, R. Mack Collector, four specimens and **Vermont:** Washington Co., Plainfield, 5/VI/1993, M. Michaelis Collector and Washington Co., Graniteville, 3/VI/1993, M. Michaelis Collector, single specimens.

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All collections were from Lindgren funnel traps baited with Ipslure (ipsdienol, methylbutanol and cis-verbenol). Specimens were identified using Balachowsky (1949) and by comparison to European material in the Eggers Collection at the U.S. National Museum (USNM).

After reviewing the new England specimens, the senior author identified a series of *H. opacus* he collected from a cut stump of *Pinus sylvestris* L. in **New York:** Oneida Co., Woodgate, 27/IV/1987. This Oneida County record is additional to 1993 collections of *H. opacus* reported from 22 New York counties by Hoebeke 1994.

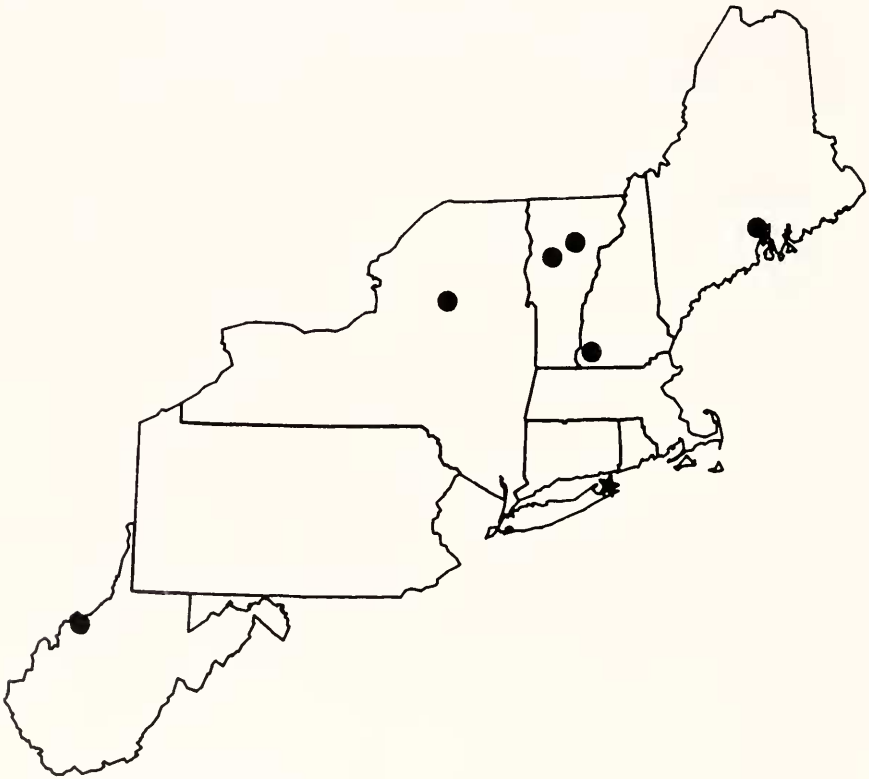

Figure 1. Collection records of *Hylastes opacus:* Star – first collection in North America (Wood 92); Closed circles – new state and county records reported in this paper.

During the review period for the manuscript we learned of the following records of *H. opacus:* from **New Hampshire:** Cheshire Co., Keene, 14-22/IV/1994, J.S. Weaver and S. Longsjoe collectors, in pine shoot beetle trap baited with alpha-pinene (identified by Dr. Donald E. Bright, Agriculture Canada, Ottawa, Canada). **West Virginia:** Wood Co., Parkersburg, 1-8/VI/1994, R. A. Meyers collector, in ethanol-baited Lindgren funnel trap (identified by Dr. Steven L. Wood, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT).

One specimen from Maine and one from New York are deposited in the USNM Insect Collection.

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